

SEARCH FOR SHIP'S DEAD ABANDONED

Cable Steamer Is Returning to Halifax With Fifteen Bodies.

BELIEVED TO BE MEMBERS OF CREW

Senator Smith Continues Investigation, but Fails to Confirm Report That News of Titanic Disaster Was Withheld by White Star Line—British Inquiry Begins.

Body of Col. Astor Arrives at Ferncliff

Rhinbeck, N. Y., May 2.—The body of Colonel John Jacob Astor arrived at Ferncliff, this afternoon, and funeral services will be held here from the Church of St. John the Evangelist, at 12 o'clock Saturday. Every flag in the village was at half mast when the body arrived, accompanied by Vincent Astor.

The services will be conducted by the Rev. Ernest Saunders, pastor of the church. A special train will bring a large funeral party from New York.

New York, May 2.—The Western Union cable steamer Minia, which has been searching for bodies, is returning to Halifax with fifteen bodies, and will dock Monday, according to a wireless received here this afternoon by the White Star Line. This means, officials of the line say, that the search for bodies has been abandoned for the present, and may be postponed indefinitely.

The message states that the Minia found the bodies widely separated over a great area, so that the search became daily more difficult.

Seven dead bodies buoyed up by life belts, together with parts of the wreckage of the Titanic, were passed on April 25 in latitude 41° 13' and longitude 48° 31' by the steamer Gibraltar, which carried the bodies to Modesto, Brazil. When the bodies were sighted, the Gibraltar was stopped, but no signs of a living person could be seen.

Report Not Confirmed. New York, May 2.—Testimony taken today by Senator William Alden Smith, of Michigan, chairman of the Senate committee investigating the Titanic disaster, did not reveal any facts tending to confirm the report that news of the Titanic disaster, which the White Star Line made public at a London event on April 15, had reached New York early that morning.

To determine this question was the principal object of the Senator's visit here, and he had before him today in private hearing John Bottomly, vice-president of the American Marine Company, E. J. Dunn, the New York merchant, who testified in Washington that he had been informed by the son of a Western Union operator that a message had been received in New York on Monday morning, telling of the Titanic's fate, and the operator himself, who returned to the city today, Mr. Smith said, after having been absent since Sunday night.

These witnesses were disposed to be recalcitrant, the Senator said, and their examination was very unsatisfactory. He declared he would call the operator again, when he hoped to obtain more definite information.

Had No Special News. Vice-President Bottomly, according to his stenographic testimony, disclaimed all knowledge of any special news being received at the time reported.

"Do you know of your own knowledge, or have you been informed by any person, by wire, wireless, cable, letter, word of mouth, or otherwise, that information regarding this disaster reached any office of your company, or the White Star Line, on Monday, April 15, prior to 10 o'clock?" was the question Senator Smith put to him.

"No, I don't know of any such message," Mr. Bottomly replied, adding that the Marconi Company received its first message about the sinking of the Titanic on Monday.

"LILYWHITE" SPLIT ADDS TO MUDDLE

Republican Faction Divide Into Two "Wings."

EACH CLAIMS TO BE REGULAR

Two Sets of Delegates Named, and These, With the "Black and Tans," Make Three Delegations Which Louisiana Will Send to National Convention at Chicago.

Alexandria, La., May 2.—The already badly muddled Louisiana Republican situation was given an added dash of coloring today, when the State convention of the "lily white" faction split into two "wings" and elected two sets of delegates to the national convention to be held at Chicago. One wing lauded President Taft and elected six delegates-at-large, instructed to vote for the President's renomination.

The other wing, adopted, with the same unanimity, resolutions endorsing Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, and chose six Louisiana Republicans to go to Chicago and vote for the Colonel to the last.

And yet there was "harmony" in the convention, and both "wings" insist there was no split. They simply agreed to disagree on the one question of whether proxy should be counted in the election of a temporary chairman.

Both wings chose a vice-chairman, and then a committee agreed that the Taft wing should have the convention held in Louisiana, while the Roosevelt wing should come in and transact its business. The agreement was lived up to, and the resolutions which the Roosevelt faction adopted endorsing Frank B. Williams, leader of the Taft wing, as the "real" chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee were no less laudatory of Mr. Williams than were those adopted by his own wing.

The action of the convention today means that three different sets of delegates will go to the Chicago convention from Louisiana and gave the credentials committee there the proposition of figuring out which is "regular."

The "black and tan" held a State convention in Alexandria last month and elected a set of delegates for Mr. Taft. Each of the three sets lays claim to "regularity."

Underwood's Victory Grows. Atlanta, Ga., May 2.—Delayed returns from the presidential primary held in Georgia yesterday continue to add to the plurality of Oscar W. Underwood. Official results have been received from 106 of the 146 counties, and these, with the unofficial returns from the other forty, show a plurality for Underwood of 13,115 votes. The official canvass, it is stated, will change these figures but slightly.

The total votes for the four candidates are given by the Atlanta Constitution as follows: Oscar Underwood, 71,556; Woodrow Wilson, 55,341; Charles Clark, 20,567; Hudson Harnett, 8,257.

Although Governor Wilson carried more than thirty counties in the State, including all the larger cities, he will not get a fraction of the Georgia delegation to the Baltimore convention. Under the plan of the State Democratic Executive Committee, the State convention, which meets May 29, will be composed of delegates instructed for the popular choice of the State. This means that Mr. Underwood is sure of the twenty-eight delegates from Georgia.

Underwood Has 5,464 Majority. Jacksonville, Fla., May 2.—Returns from Tuesday's presidential primary, with several counties missing and a few others incomplete, tonight show a majority for Underwood of 5,464 votes. In the contests for State offices, a second primary will be necessary to decide the winner in at least two races.

Park Trammell is leading in the race for Governor with 25,600 votes, Cromwell Gibbons, W. H. Milton and J. W. Watson following in the order named. A run off will be necessary between Trammell and Gibbons.

PRESIDENT PAYS TRIBUTE TO BUTT

Tears in His Eyes as He Calls Up Memories of Friend.

DWELLS ON HIS GREAT DEVOTION

Never Knew How Much "Archie" Meant to Him Until After He Lost Life in Wreck of Titanic—Self-Sacrifice Had Become Part of His Nature.

Augusta, Ga., May 2.—Coming as a friend to pay a tribute to the memory of a friend, President Taft spent today in Augusta as the guest of honor at the city's memorial service to the memory of Major Archibald Butt, one of the victims of the Titanic disaster of April 14.

The memorial services were followed by an informal reception at the Commercial Club, where Mr. Taft met many of his old friends, and afterward the President was entertained at the home of Landon Thomas. He left on his return to Washington at 3:30 o'clock.

The President was visibly affected by the tributes paid to Major Butt. There were tears in his eyes as he called up memories of the man who was his aide ever since he entered the White House, and who had traveled thousands of miles with him.

Mr. Taft made only a short speech, but he came near breaking down twice.

"Never did I know how much he was to me until he was dead," said the President. "Lacking nothing of self-respect and giving up nothing he owed to himself, he conducted himself with a singleness of purpose and to the happiness and comfort of the President who was his chief."

Mr. Taft told how he met Major Butt, first in the Philippines and later as aid to President Roosevelt. He dwelt on Major Butt's devotion to Mr. Roosevelt and himself.

It has always seemed to me," said the President, "that Archie never married because he loved his mother so. The greatest sorrow of his life was when she left him."

Mr. Taft concluded with a word more as to Mr. Butt's spirit of self-sacrifice. "Self-sacrifice," he said, "had become a part of his nature. If Archie could have selected his time to die, he would have taken the one God gave him."

Augusta was Major Butt's home, and for several hours today business was practically suspended while the memorial services were conducted in a theatre. Flags were at half-mast on most of the public buildings, and thousands of persons crowded around the theatre, anxious to hear President Taft speak.

Makes Two Political Speeches. Florence, S. C., May 2.—Although not on a campaign trip, President Taft made two short speeches in South Carolina today on his way to Washington from Augusta, Ga. He delivered the first at Sumter from the rear platform of his private car, and the second at Florence. Big crowds greeted him at both places.

The President preached prosperity, and declared his opposition to doctrines that he said would destroy that prosperity if written in law.

"What we want is prosperity," said Mr. Taft at Sumter. "We want quiet and the least disturbance to business, so that capital may be invested and all may enjoy plenty. In South Carolina I have not always had the support that would make it possible to ask for your suffrages, but I know there is a strong substratum in South Carolina, as in other States, of confidence in existing government, and there is a desire to maintain it, and may be used to continue it as it is."

Henry Jackson, collector of internal revenue for Georgia, and one of the Taft leaders in that State, was a guest on Mr. Taft's car.

FLOOD SITUATION GROWS DESPERATE

Steady Rain Is Softening Already Strained Levees.

ENGINEERS' TASK SEEMS HOPELESS

Impossible to Stop Torras Crevasse, and Efforts Are Turned to Other Places in Hope of Holding Back Raging Currents of Mississippi.

Baton Rouge, La., May 2.—With an ever-widening rant in the west levee line at Torras, letting the waters of the Mississippi through to the rich sugar lands of Pointe-Coupee Parish, this State's big farm at Anguila, on the east side of the river, flooded by a crevasse at noon today, work is being done in the Grand Bay embankment above Morganza, and threatening conditions in Baton Rouge, and with a steady rain falling to soften the already strained levees, the situation in Central Louisiana is the most desperate since the floods began pouring down through the Mississippi Valley.

It became apparent early today that the Torras crevasse could not be stopped, and the Federal and State engineers turned to devote their labors to the almost hopeless task of saving remaining levees, where even greater damage might be done by crevasses.

Captain C. O. Sherrill, chief of the Federal engineers, freely admitted tonight that the situation is alarming at several points south of Red River. Captain Sherrill and a force of several thousand experienced workmen are laboring day and night now, but they are facing greater odds than ever before were presented by floods in the lower Mississippi Valley.

After a hurried survey of the threatening situation along the waterfront here, Captain Sherrill immediately put a force to work along the cross levee which runs from the river back to the hills. The water here is nearly two feet above the previous flood record, and rising rapidly. At 7 o'clock tonight the flood was within twelve inches of the top of the sandbags which have been placed along the river levee protecting Front Street.

Although several hundred people were removed today from the territory flooded by the Torras break, hundreds of others are lining the west bank of the river, awaiting the arrival of boats to transport them to high land. Appeals have been coming in all day long for gasoline launches and small craft to assist in getting people out of the overflowed country south of Torras.

Lake of Water Covers Town. Torras, La., May 2.—A lake of water tonight covers the town of Torras to a depth ranging from two to six feet, and the Mississippi flood waters are pouring through the crevasse, which occurred in the levee last yesterday, at the rate of twelve miles an hour. This torrent of flood water has covered the little towns of Lettoworth, Innis, Binnvenue and Smithland, and is rapidly flooding Pointe-Coupee parish between the Mississippi and Atchafalaya Rivers.

While the water from the Torras Crevasse may eventually inundate sections of six or eight parishes south of here, State and Federal engineers today stated that the very severe damage would largely be confined to the Pointe-Coupee parish, north of a line from New Roads to Melville. The crevasse tonight is about 800 feet wide.

The Federal and State engineers abandoned the idea of attempting to close the crevasse at noon today. Captain C. O. Sherrill, chief of the United States engineers in charge of the fourth district levee work, assigned all of the boats under his control here to the rescue work, and his force, together with the one under Captain Lomax, U. S. A., on the steamer Nokomis, transferred practically all of the people in the town and several thousand head of livestock to points on the east side of the river. These Federal forces also started in saving thousands of dollars' worth of household goods from the buildings.

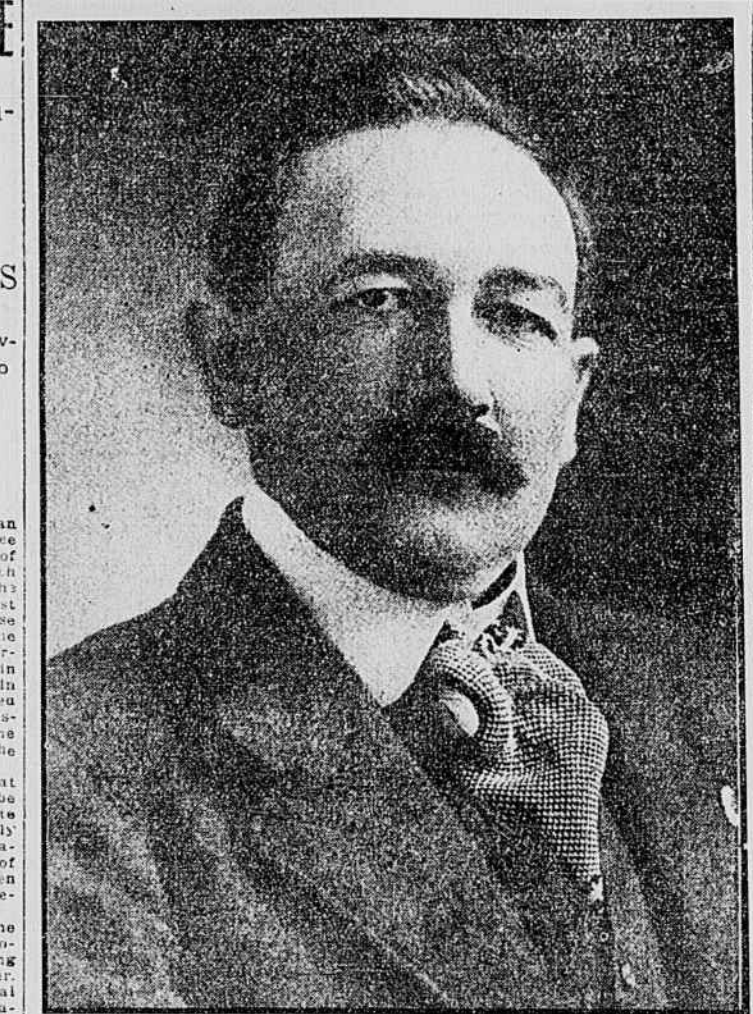
Will Continue Fight. Miss Turnbull Contests for Share of "Lucky" Baldwin's Estate. Boston, May 2.—Despite the decision of the California Supreme Court denying her a new trial, Miss Beatrice Turnbull, of Brookline, will continue her contest for a daughter's share of the late "Lucky" Baldwin's estate.

Lieutenant Ray S. McDonald, U. S. N., Falls From Trolley Car. New York, May 2.—Lieutenant Ray S. McDonald, U. S. N., fell from a Brooklyn trolley car tonight as the result of a fractured skull sustained in a fall from a trolley car.

Walter B. Grant of this city, one of the Southern States, was stopped, plunging with his bride at a Brooklyn hotel, attempted to board a car at the Brooklyn end of the bridge, when his foot slipped and he was hurled against an elevated railroad pillar. He was taken immediately to a hospital, but died shortly afterwards.

Former Congressman Dead. Nashville, Tenn., May 2.—Nathaniel N. Cox, member of Congress from 1892 to 1904 in the Southwestern Tennessee District, died today at his home in Williamson county, aged seventy-six.

FAMOUS CARTOONIST DEAD



HOMER DAVENPORT.

CONFERENCE MAY PLACE TIME LIMIT DEATH HASTENED BY OWN CARTOONS

Proposed to Let No Minister Serve Pulpit More Than Five Years. Homer Davenport Haunted by His Gruesome Drawings of Titanic Disaster.

BISHOPS SUPPORT PLAN KNOWN THE WORLD OVER

Methodists May Also Make Radical Changes in Amusement Restrictions. He Was Also Famous for His Celebrated Collection of Arabian Steeds.

Minneapolis, Minn., May 2.—A proposal to limit to five years the time any minister shall remain in a given church, it is expected, will be recommended to the Methodist Episcopal General Conference by the bishops tomorrow, as a means of stimulating the growth of the church.

Much opposition is expected to arise over the proposal. At present the 19,000 Methodist Episcopal ministers scattered over the world are allowed to remain in any pulpit indefinitely. The new plan, supported by the twenty-four active bishops at the conference, will mean a restoration of the time limit abolished in 1903. In favor of the change, the bishops have advanced these arguments:

"Because some of the churches will not have the less able ministers all the time, and none of the churches will have the better ministers exclusively; because the prominent pulpits, now held by a few, will be thrown open to younger men."

"That preachers who plan great work will not be in a pulpit long enough to accomplish it; that many great preachers have left the church because hampered by a time limit; because large congregations cannot be built up from a pulpit where there are frequent changes."

It is said that many of the ministers have occupied the same pulpits for more than twelve years, and their objection to the bishops' proposal, when it comes before the conference, will be based on their reluctance to leave a community where they have lived so long.

Radical Changes Proposed. It is expected also that the bishops will recommend radical changes in the amusement restrictions now imposed upon church members, and these changes will be in the nature of restoring John Wesley's method of allowing conscience of individuals to dictate what shall be prohibited, instead of having the church decide.

In delivering the first section of the bishops' report, signed by all the bishops and received by the 850 delegates as the most important document to come before them, Bishop Earl Cranston of Washington, described as "critical" the fact that in the last year the church had gained "less than 2 per cent. in membership, notwithstanding the outlay of millions of dollars."

"The greed for wealth, sports and forms of amusement have taken away from the church, it is useless to deny," he said. He attributed the small growth partly to the system of dropping from membership those who left their church without letters and failed to report to another church within a year.

"In the last year," said the report, "the church has made a net gain of but 55,000, which is less than 2 per cent., as the outcome of the year's activities and the outlay of many millions of dollars. The statistical paradox glares us out of countenance."

A fair calculation reveals the astounding fact that probably no less than 500,000 members disappeared from the church in the last year.

LIFE OF FOSTER WAS THREATENED BY FLOYD ALLEN, LEADER OF CLAN

Swore He Would Kill Commonwealth's Attorney if Convicted in Hillsville Court.

TWO WITNESSES TESTIFY TO HIS OPEN CONTEMPT

Judge Bolen, Who Was Prisoner's Counsel, Goes on Stand and Tells of Part His Former Client Took in Wiping Out of Carroll County Court—Saw Glean of His Pistol Before Any Shots Were Fired—Evidence Seems Conclusive That Judge Massie Died at Hands of Claude Swanson Allen.

Had Threatened Life of Attorney Foster

Wytheville, Va., May 2.—"I'll kill Bill Foster before the sun goes down to-morrow night if I'm convicted," Floyd Allen, the first of the Hillsville court-murders, now on trial here for his life, was charged with making this remark before the shooting on March 14, according to the testimony today of J. B. Weddell, of Montgomery, one of the first day's witnesses for the prosecution. On cross-examination Weddell stuck to his story, though he admitted no other persons were present during his conversation with Allen.

Six witnesses, three of them spectators at the shooting affair, testified.

The first witness, D. W. Bolen, a lawyer who was defending Allen in the court where the murders occurred, testified that he saw Claude Allen fire the first shot, and that it struck Judge Massie. Court officials returned the fire, he said. Two of the jurors who were then trying Allen testified, one of them that Allen had fired in the direction of where he last saw Foster, the Commonwealth's attorney, who was killed.

Other witnesses told of conversations with Allen in which he had threatened Foster.

Prosecutor Wyxor, opening the case, said he would show there was a conspiracy among the Allens to shoot up the court if Floyd Allen were convicted. Attorney Willie, for the defense, retorted that reports of the tragedy had been grossly exaggerated, and that he would introduce testimony to show that Bettie Ayers was killed by a bullet from Clerk Dexter Goad's revolver, and not by the Allens. The defense attorneys, he said, would show that Floyd Allen had been wounded before he had taken part in the shooting.

Wytheville, Va., May 2.—Completely unnerved by his ordeal in court today, Floyd Allen broke down in jail to-night and besought his guard to cut his throat.

"I can stand it no longer," he said. "It would be a kindness to let me die."

The fearful denunciation visited upon the prisoner by Joseph C. Wyxor affected him deeply. The prisoner is searched twice each day when he is returned from the courthouse to the jail in the fear that some friend will furnish him with a weapon.

BY ALEXANDER FORWARD.

Wytheville, Va., May 2.—As a net result of the first day of testimony in the trial of Floyd Allen for the murder of William M. Foster, in the Carroll Courthouse murders of March 14, the Commonwealth amply showed the active participation in the shooting affair by the prisoner at the bar. Prior threats were established by two witnesses as having been uttered by Floyd Allen. The absolute contempt shown by the prisoner for the law, and the courts of the State was attested by the mouths of witnesses.

"I just tell you I ain't a-going," was Floyd Allen's remark at the moment of his conviction, and of the order for his removal to the jail, according to his counsel, Judge Bolen.

"I won't stand for it," he said, is the version of James N. Early, Juror W. F. Nester thinks he said, "Gentlemen, I ain't a-going!"

This is taken to indicate beyond doubt that the first hostile movement was made by Floyd Allen in the courtroom just preceding the murders. He it was who began the tragedy by his disregard for the judgment of the court, and by his braggart stand against incarceration.

Saw Glean of Pistol. Added to this is the testimony of Judge Bolen that he saw the gleam of Floyd's pistol before any shot was fired, and that he looked about him for the prisoner's sons to try to prevent trouble. In that moment of search, Claude Swanson Allen, one of

VOTERS!

Every citizen of Richmond should pay his poll tax, so that he will be able to vote at the election of the Administrative Board.

Saturday is the last day upon which poll taxes can be paid. Don't put it off. Pay your taxes now. After Saturday you cannot qualify.

POST-OFFICE BILL PASSES

It Carries Appropriation for Federal Aid of Good Roads.

Washington, May 2.—The post-office appropriation bill, carrying, approximately, \$275,000,000, was passed by the House today, 240 to 5. The measure carried in addition to the appropriations necessary for the conduct of the department, a number of radical additions. Among these were Federal aid for good roads, the compulsory publication by newspapers, magazines and periodicals of the names of their owners and the establishment of a rural free delivery service.

The good roads provision added \$10,000,000 and \$18,000,000 to the appropriation, and this amount, it is expected, will be materially increased in the next post-office measure.

Oscar Underwood Receives Ovation

Washington, May 2.—An unusual demonstration greeted Representative Oscar Underwood, the majority leader, when he appeared in the House today, the chamber which was crowded, rising in a body and cheering him because of his victories in the Georgia and Florida presidential primaries. Speaker Clark, who was in the chair, looked on smiling while the applause continued.

Another demonstration was accorded Mr. Underwood when he was called to take the chair upon the introduction of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. When Speaker Clark turned over the gavel to the majority leader the House burst into an upsurge that lasted several minutes. Throughout it all Mr. Underwood smiled delightedly.

(Continued on Eighth Page.)